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An Essay  
on  
*Cynanchus Trachealis*,

by  
Jacob Baughman

of  
*Pennsylvania.*



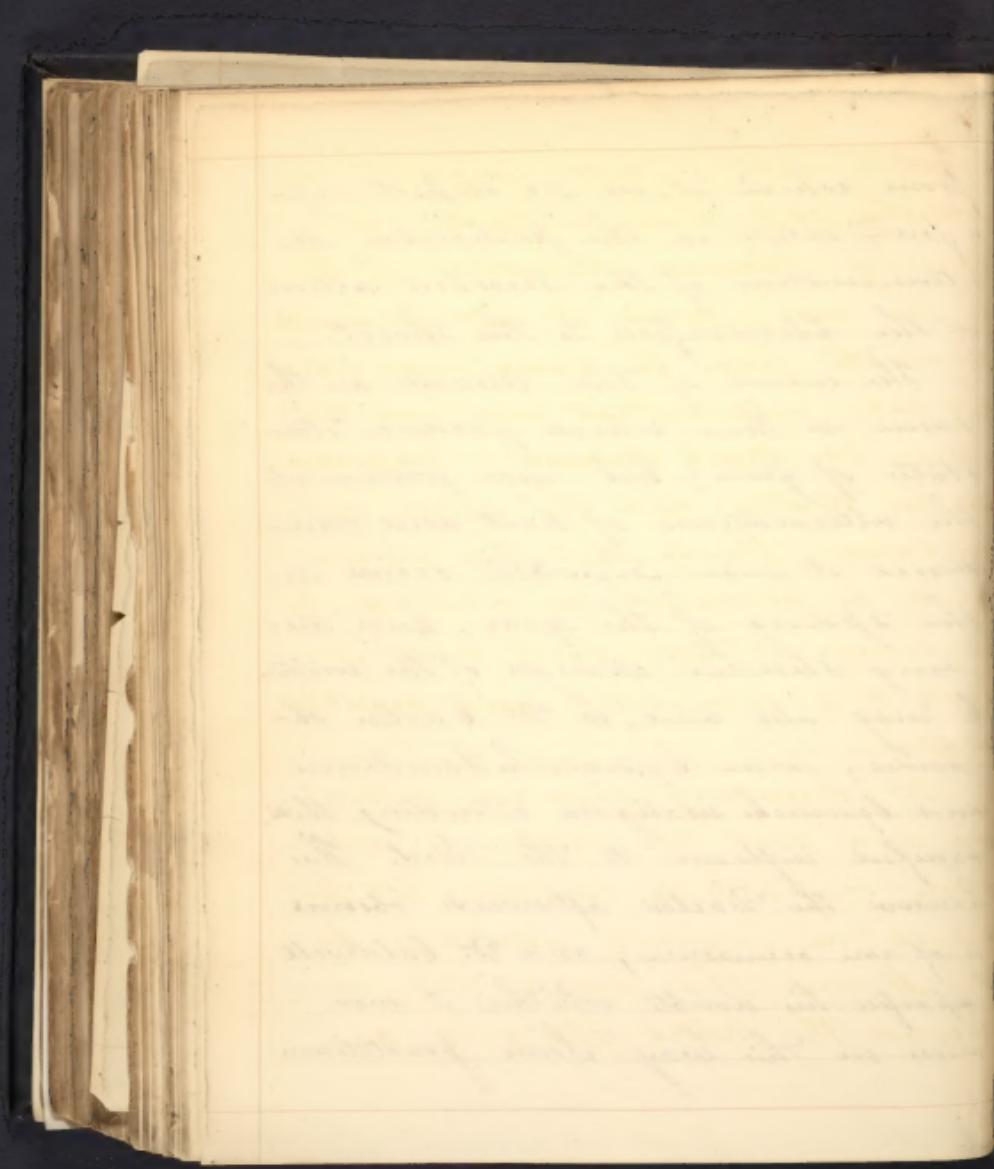
This disease has been variously  
termed by different writers, but, the  
most common name is that of  
hives or croup. It consists in an  
inflammation of the glottis, larynx  
or upper part of the wind pipe. From  
the nature and situation of the dis-  
ease, I should suppose that the  
term of Trachitis used by Dr. Frank  
would be preferable to designate it,  
as this term both conveys a correct  
idea of the nature and situation  
of the disease, and establishes its  
unity with other states of fever,  
attended with local inflammation.



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from which it in no respect differs, except in the particular determination of the morbid action of the bloodvessels to the throat.

The causes of this disease are the same as those which produce other states of fever; but more particularly the alternations of heat and cold. Hence it more frequently occurs in the spring of the year, and during sudden changes of the weather. It may also arise, as Dr Cullen observes, from Cynanche Tonillaris and Cynanche maligna extending their baneful influence to the throat. This however the Doctor afterwards observes is of rare occurrence; and Dr Caldwell expresses his doubts whether it ever arises in this way. Some practitioners



have thought it more frequent in marshy soils than in tracts of country otherwise situated. If this is the case, may it not frequently originate from the same causes which produce intermittent and remittent fevers, viz. Marsh miasma? - Underwood, in his treatise upon the diseases of children, thinks that this disease may be produced in children, by a change of their milk diet, for food of a more solid and digestible nature.

By consulting medical history we find that this disease is not alone confined to children, but that adults are frequently attacked by it. It was this disease that deprived the United States of a

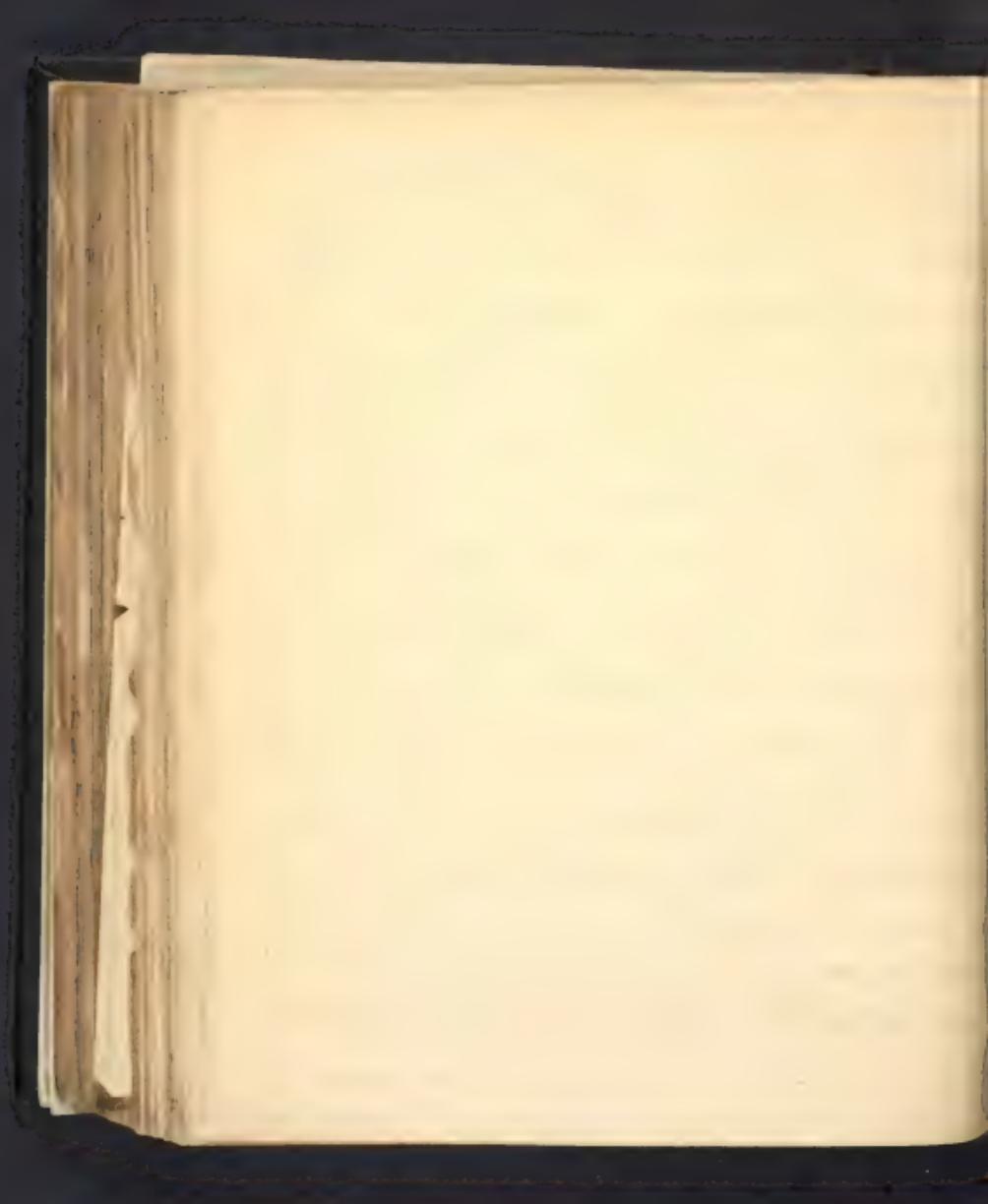
as follows were reported  
in the last issue of the  
Journal of the American  
Medical Association, March 10,  
1897. The author of the article  
is Dr. John C. Stoddard, of  
the medical department of the  
University of the South, Sewanee,  
Tenn., and the article is entitled  
"The Treatment of Chronic  
Diseases by the Use of Water."  
The author says that the  
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father and friend, the brave and illustrious General George Washington. Children from the age of one year to five, appear to be most subject to it. It sometimes comes on suddenly, exhibiting all its peculiar symptoms from its very onset; and here it appears to consist in a spasmodic action of the parts. At other times it comes on slowly attacking in the form of a catarrh, or common cold, from which it is sometimes with difficulty distinguished; and in this case it consists in an inflammation of the lining membrane of the trachea.

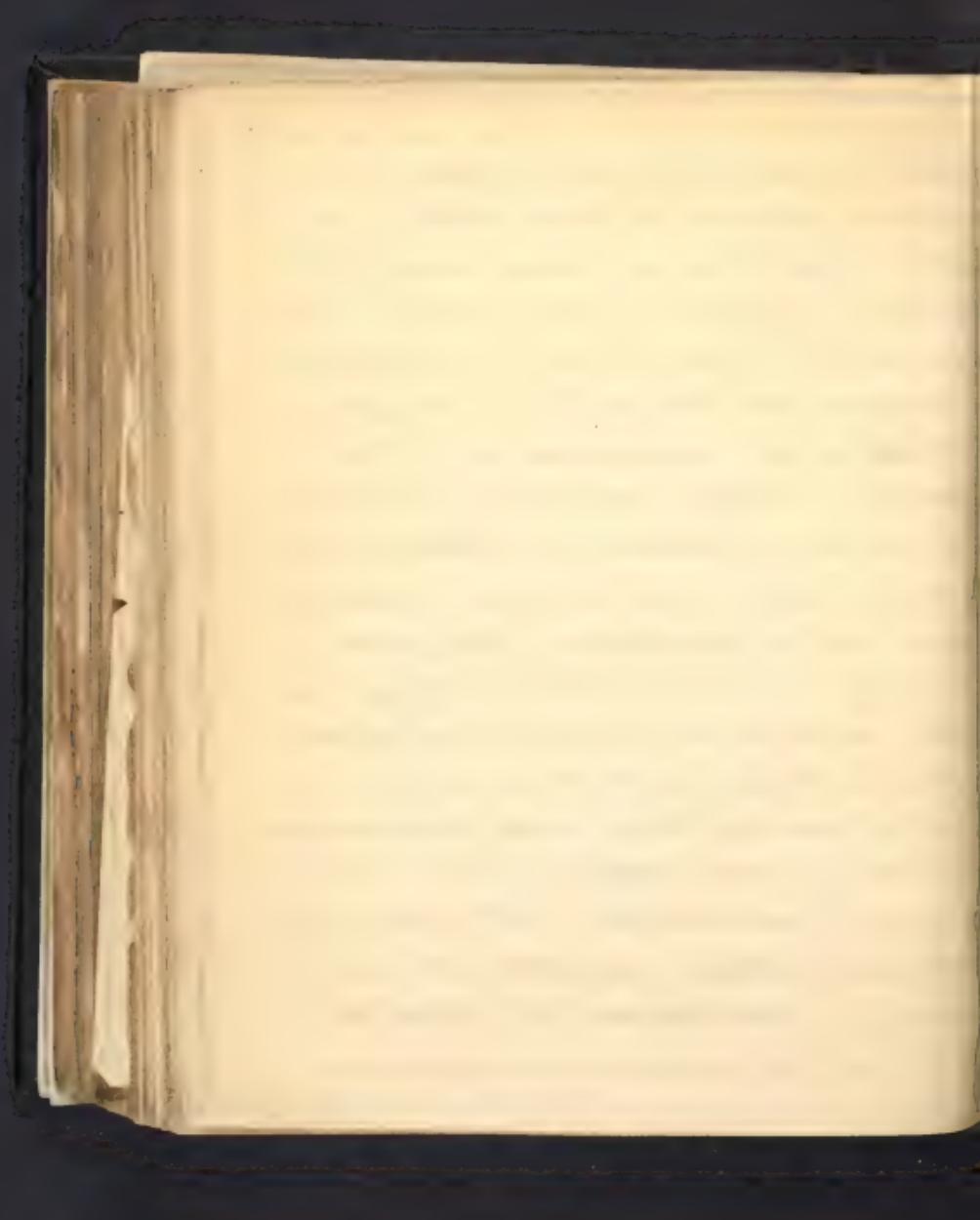
When the disease is completely formed, the symptoms are as follow. A peculiar singing sound of the voice, compared by Dr. Bullen to the passage



of air through a brason tube, or by  
others to the crowing of a young cock.  
There is a hoarseness both in speaking  
and coughing, a difficult sonorous  
respiration attended with a sense of  
stricture and pain about the larynx;  
the eyes are red, the face is flushed,  
and as the difficulty of breathing  
increases, becomes swelled, and of a  
purplish colour, in consequence of  
the return of blood from the brain  
being in some measure prevented,  
by the accumulation of that fluid in  
the right cavities of the heart, and  
pulmonary system; it is frequently  
attended with a dry cough, unac-  
-companied with any expectoration;  
but if any matter be ejected or spit  
up, it either has a purulent appear-



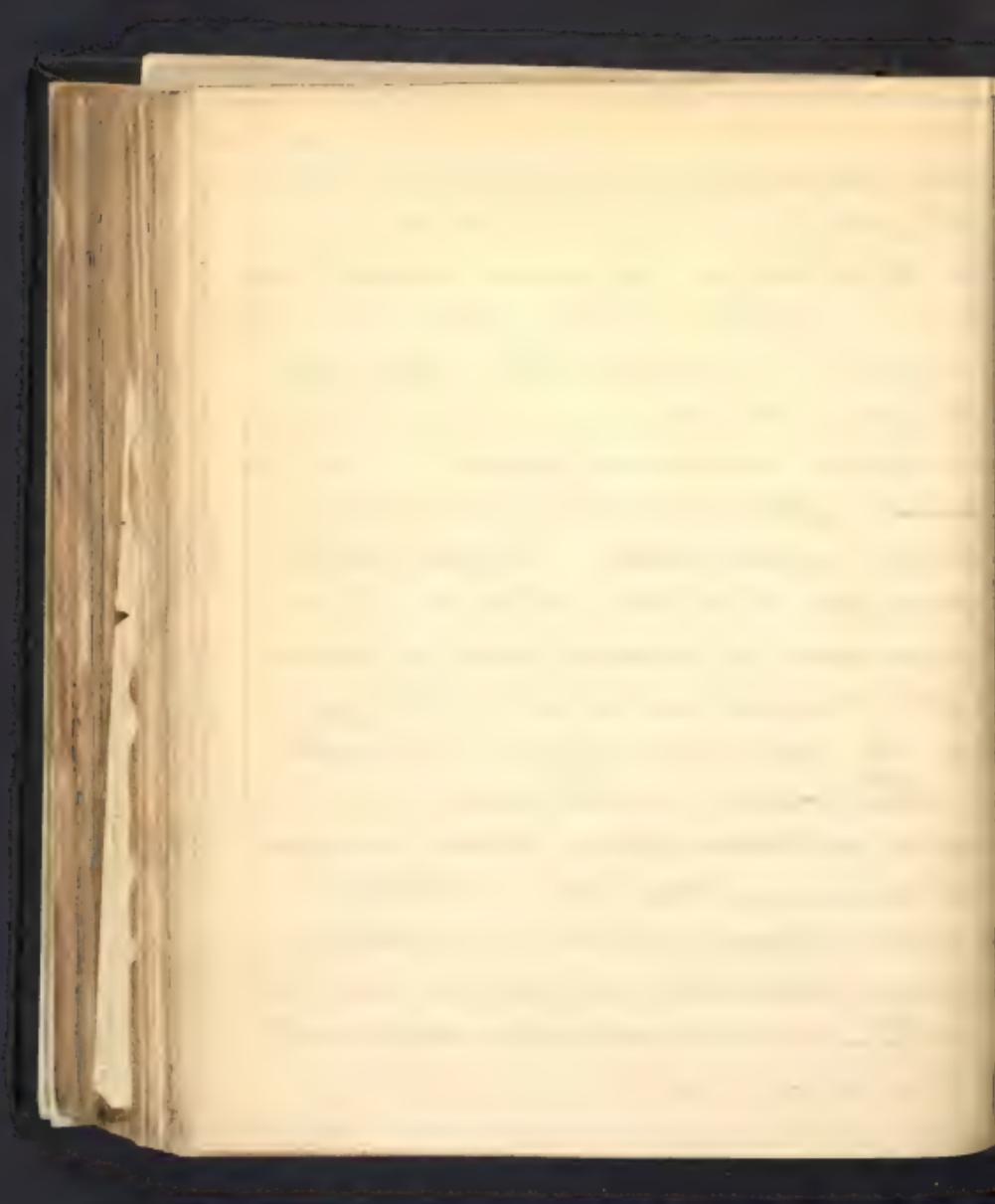
ance, or very much resembles de-  
tached portions of membrane, which  
upon dissection is found lining the  
internal surface of the trachea. This  
cough has mostly from its very con-  
tinuance that peculiar shrillness  
which is so characteristic of this  
disease.— When we come to examine  
the internal fauces of a patient la-  
bouring under this disease, a redness  
and even a swelling of the parts  
will be evident; but in many cases  
there will be no appearance of in-  
flammation and tumfaction,  
yet frequently there will be a matter  
resembling pus, adhering to the internal  
surface, not unlike that ejected by  
coughing. These symptoms do not  
continue long before the pulse be-



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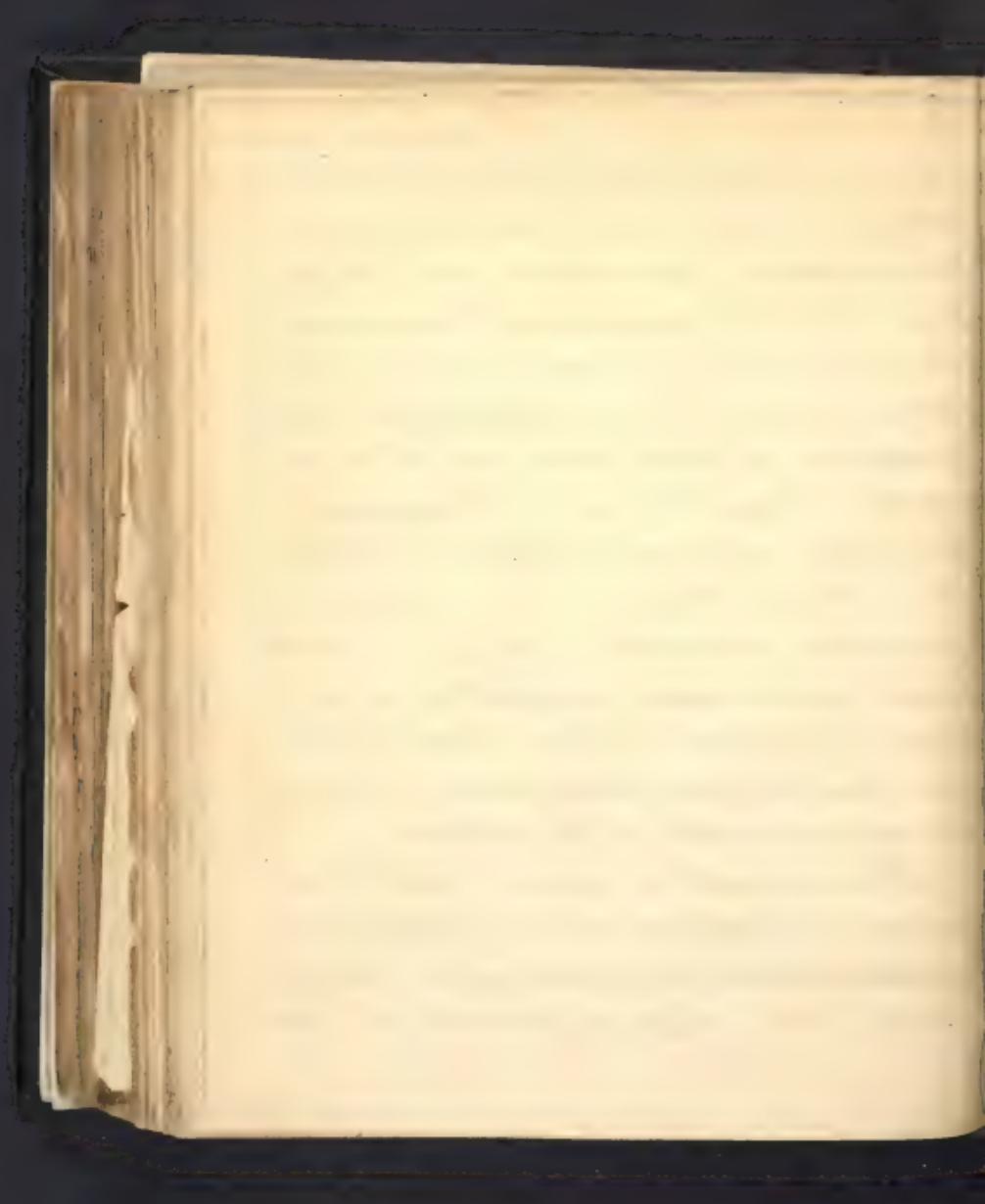
comes frequent, strong and hard; the patient is troubled with pain in the heart; becomes restless with a hot parched skin, attended with much ~~heat~~, white and often foul tongue. The urine is generally discharged in small quantities and it much difficulty, it has generally a limpid appearance. As the disease progresses it is evacuated in large quantities, is turbid; and a favourable termination approaching, generally deposits a copious sediment.

The bowels in this disease, as in other inflammatory fevers, become inactive, and somewhat distended with flatulencies. If the symptoms prove obstinate, the pulse which was <sup>before</sup> hard and vigorous, begins to



lose its strength and tension, becomes extremely weak and, as the fatal termination approaches, remarkably frequent. "In Cyananche Trachealis, (observes Dr Wilson) as in most other phlegmasiae, however alarming the other symptoms of fever may be, there is seldom any delirium. The patient generally retains his senses to the last, except that a degree of coma frequently supervenes." If the symptoms do not remit soon, unless they be very mild, the patient seldom survives more than three or four hours, or even less, from the commencement of the attack.

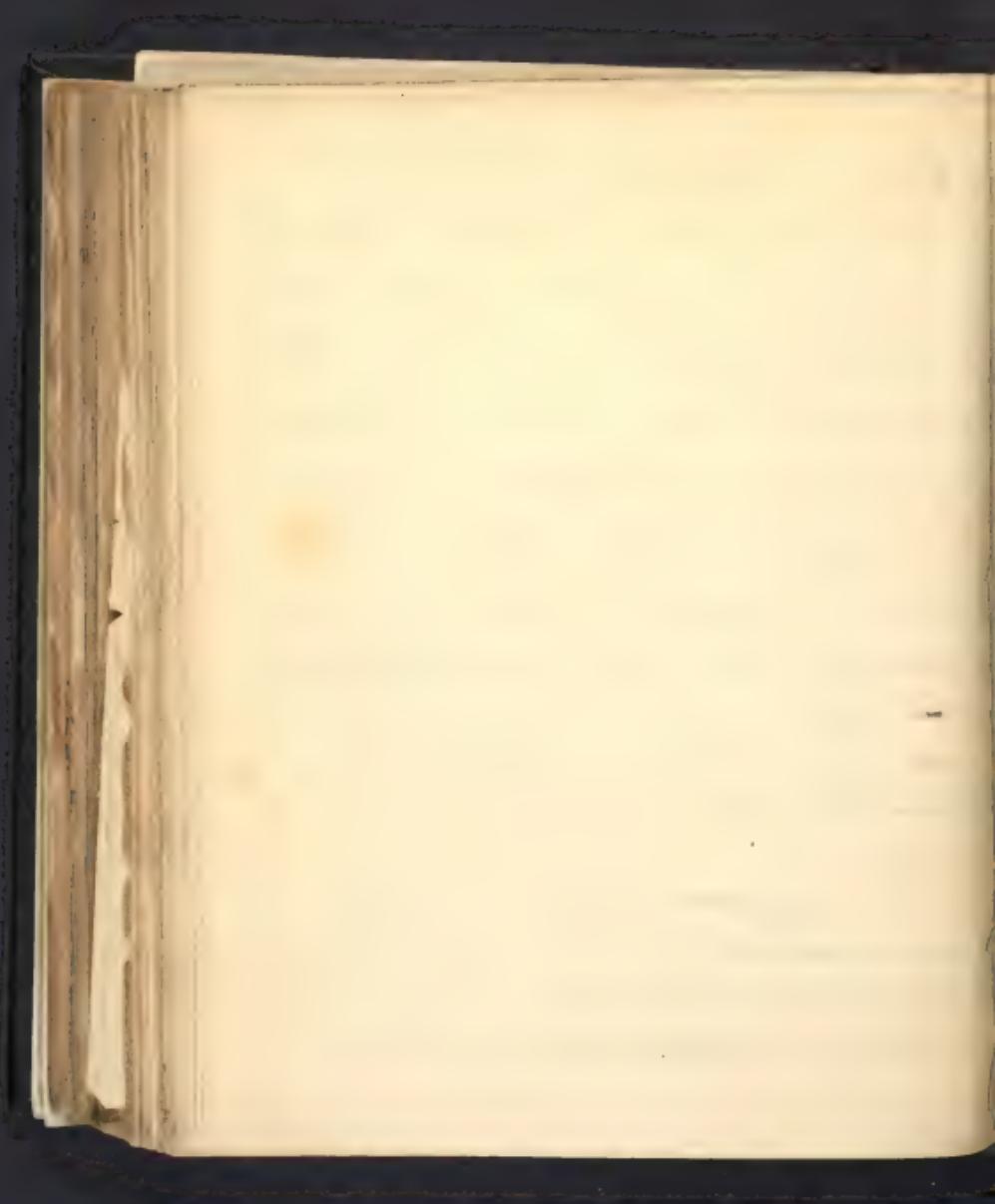
The symptoms which denote approaching dissolution are the following. The mouth becomes very foul; the respiration more hurried, small and dif-



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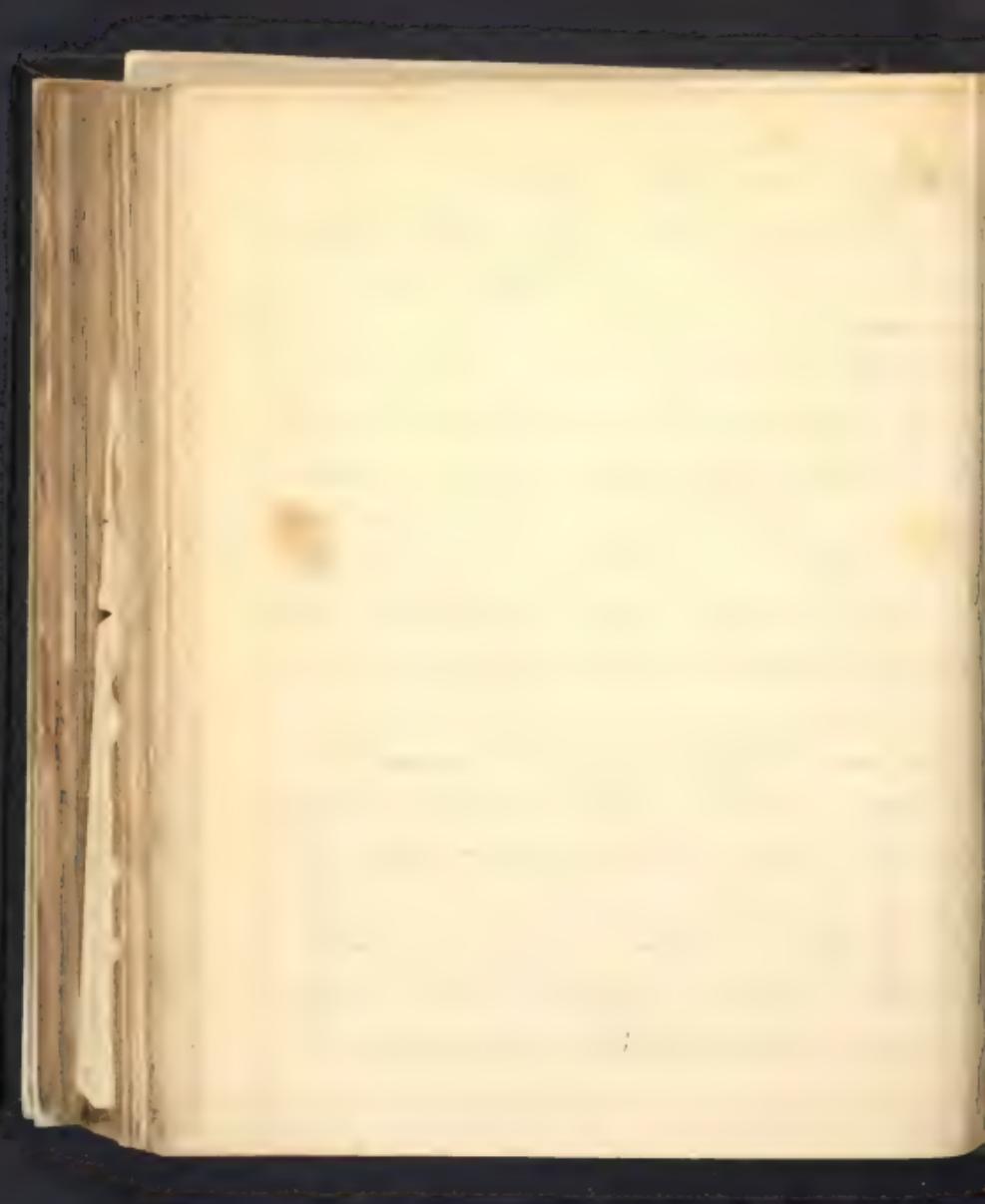
-ficult; the restlessness and vexation increase; and under these circumstances that species of delirium, which is most nearly allied to coma, sometimes supervenes, the patient seeming stuporously & frequently muttering to himself with marks of great impatience. The pulse in such cases is often near two hundred, tremulous and irregular; at length it can hardly be felt, the extremities become cold, and the patient sooner expires. The patient sometimes falls into convulsions, which often prove the immediate forerunners of death.

The symptoms which mark a favourable termination of this complaint, are spontaneous sweats, a vomiting and diarrhoea, a discharge



of phlegm from the nose, and a copious sediment from the urine. Eruptions of little red blotches have been considered as a favourable symptom. Upon the whole, if the pulse becomes less frequent, fuller and more steady; the breathing less difficult and more regular; the peculiar ringing sound of the voice and cough diminishing, and the anxiety and oppression of the patient disappearing, the prognosis is favourable.

Yet an abatement of the symptoms are often delusive, for not unfrequently after the most flattering prospects, the hopes of the physician are at once blasted, by the symptoms returning with all their former violence; and unless specially arrested, they terminate in



the death of the patient.

Disections (according to Dr Rush) exhibit the following appearances in the trachea.

- 1<sup>st</sup>. A slight degree of inflammation.
- 2<sup>d</sup>. A thick matter resembling mucus.
- 3<sup>d</sup>. A membrane similar to that which succeeds inflammation in the pleura and bowels, formed from the coagulating lymph of the blood.
- 4<sup>th</sup>. In some cases the trachea exhibits no marks of disease of any kind.

After having thus given a concise view of the nature and history of this disease, I will next proceed, only to mention those remedies which have been found most successful in the treatment of it. First,

Venesection. This is extremely well



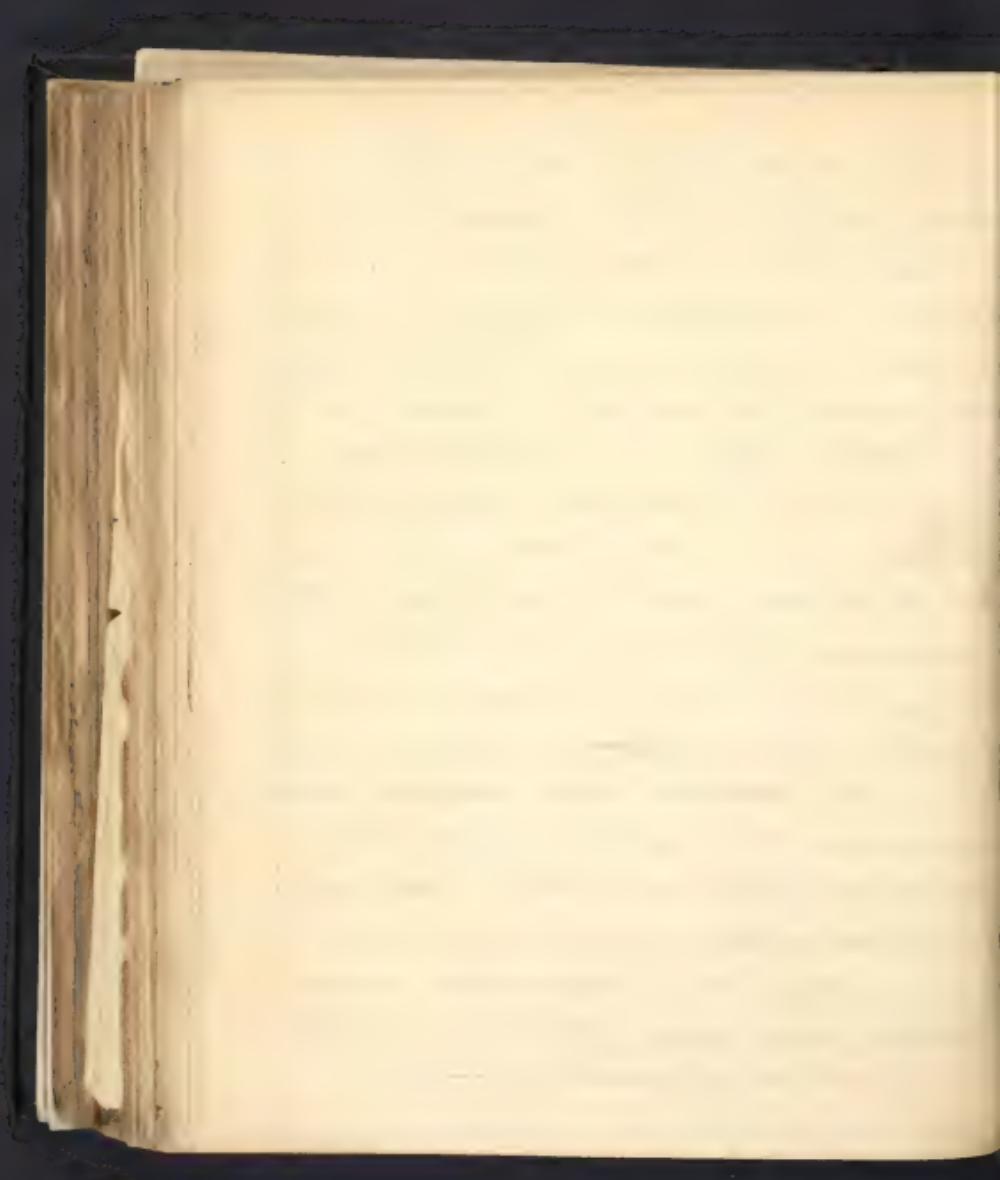
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calculated to reduce the action of  
the bloodvessels, which is so constantly  
an attendant upon this disease, and  
at the same time removes the operation  
of the medicines which are to follow  
more safe and efficacious. When blood is  
drawn in a sufficient quantity, so as  
to produce syncope, it relaxes that  
spasmodic spasm of the wind-pipe  
from which immediate suffocation is so  
often <sup>apprehended</sup>. The quantity of blood to be  
drawn should be proportioned to the  
violence of the disease, habit of body,  
and age of the patient. Dr Bailie of  
New York was in the habit of bleeding  
his patients in this disease "ad deliquium  
animi", with complete success. The same  
appears to be the practice of several of  
the distinguished professors of this Uni-



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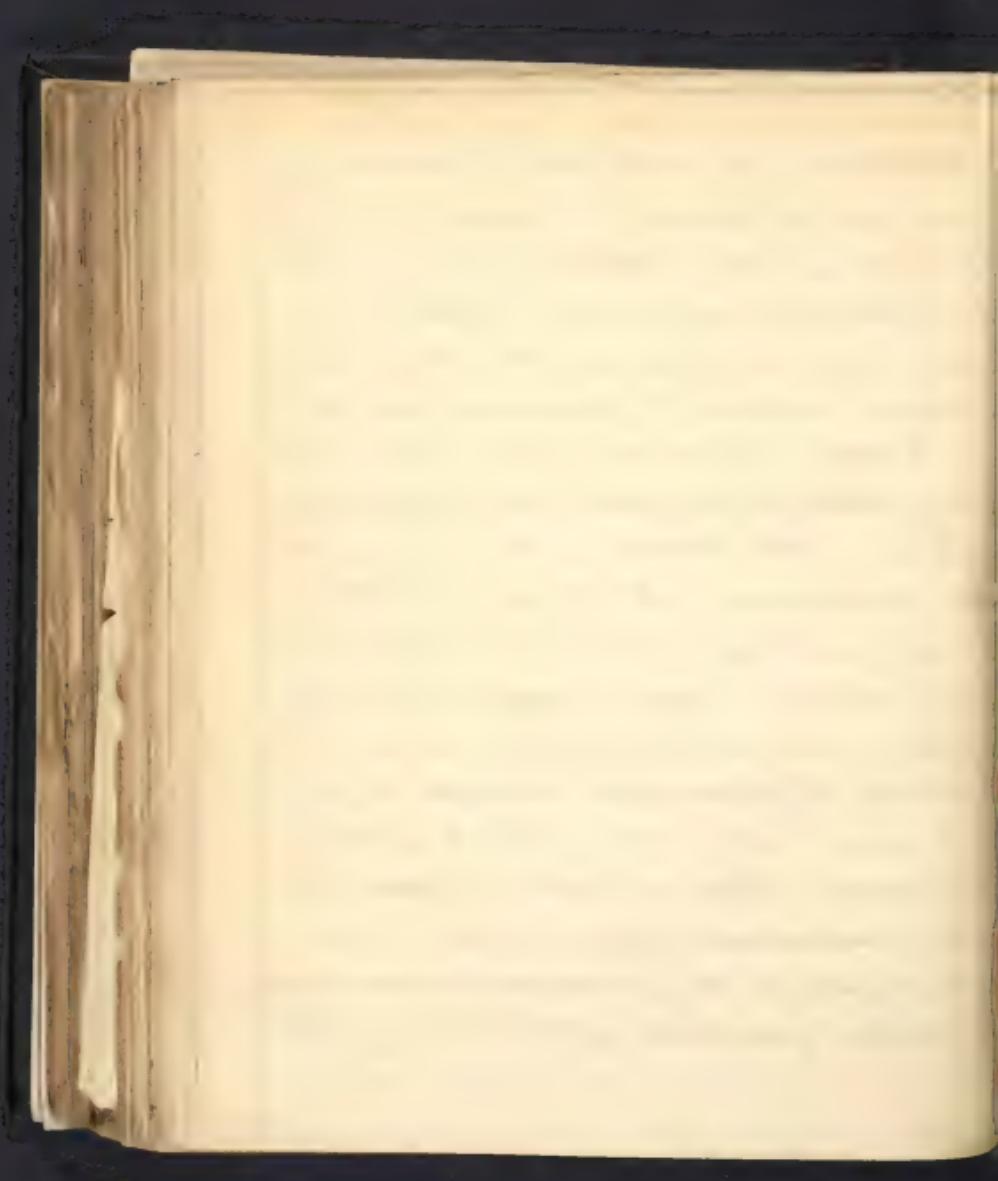
-versity, who appear to have had unri-  
valled success in the treatment of this  
disease. To show the prompt effects of  
bleeding "ad deliquium animi" in this  
disease, I will mention a case which  
was related to me by Dr Dean (a  
respectable physician of Chambersburg  
in this state.) He was requested to  
prescribe for a lad seven years of age,  
who had been suddenly attacked with  
a difficulty of breathing, a peculiar  
whizzing sound in inspiration, with  
frequent fits of choking; considerable fever  
and heat, attended with rattling, hoars-  
eness, and that peculiar singing <sup>sound</sup> of voice  
which invariably accompanies this complaint.  
In this condition, he placed him in an  
erect posture and bleed him until  
fainting was nearly produced. By this



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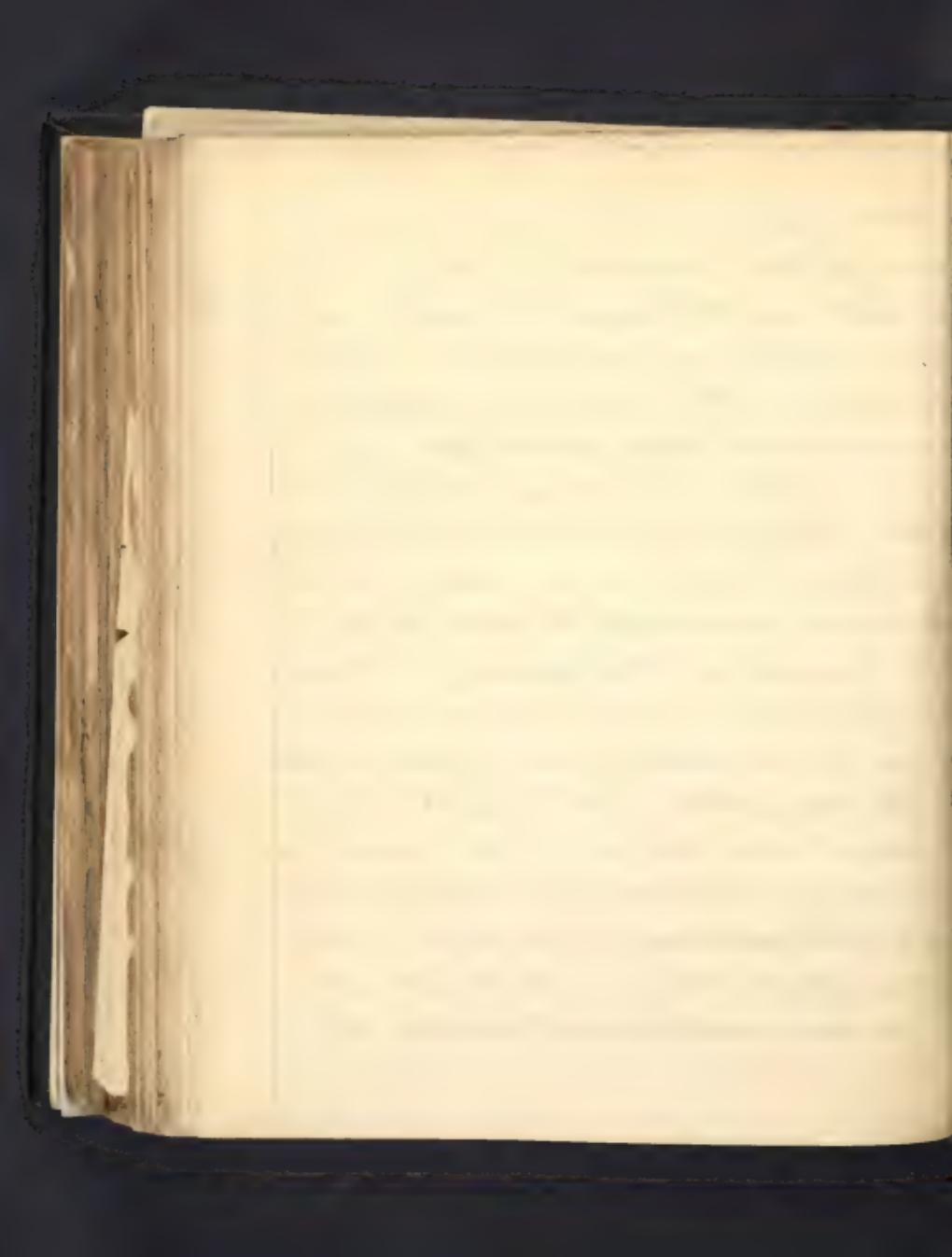
treatment, the difficulty of breathing was instantaneously relieved, the heat & fever greatly abated, and by the assistance of an emetic, with some purgative medicines, the boy was shortly restored to his usual health.

Emetics. These are of eminent service in abating the pain and inflammation of the trachea, they effect this by producing a revulsion of action, and a diminution of excitement to the stomach and surface of the body. When given in the forming stage of the disease, they very often stanch it, in its very onset, and arrest its further progress. They are also of great <sup>service</sup>, in the advanced stage of this disease, by expelling the postumatal membrane which is sometimes found lining the



inner surface of the trachea, which, during their operation is often ejected or spit up. Tartarized Antimony, or Specacuanha are considered the best emetics in this disease; Dr. Borts' hore syrup has also been found efficacious to excite puking in croup. Dr Chapman states that we frequently have to encounter great difficulty in getting emetics to operate, owing to the insensibility of the stomach in this disease, to their impression; here emetics are to be preceded by venesection and the warm bath.

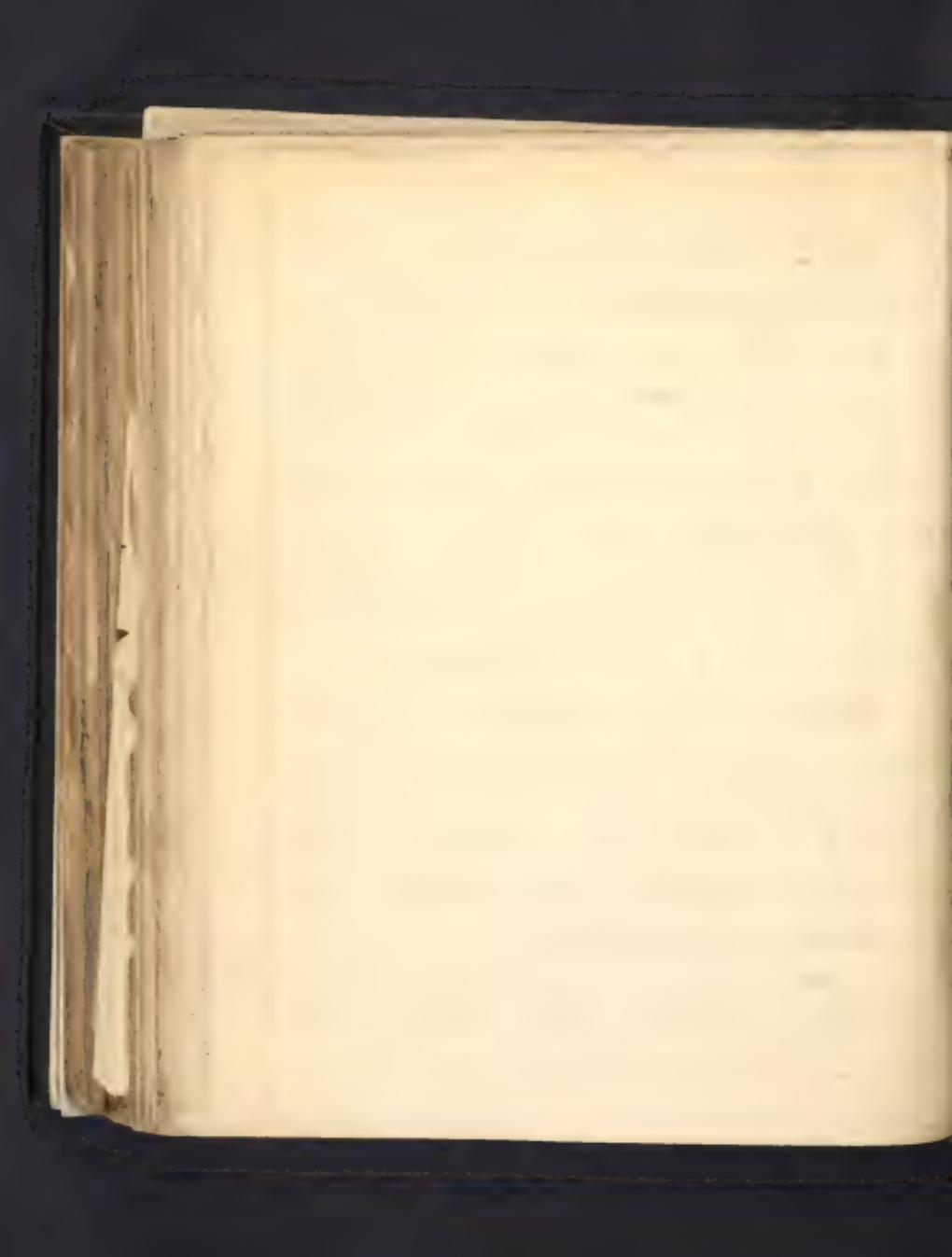
The Warm-bath. Great relief has been obtained from the use of this remedy in this disease; it has been employed to aid the operation of an emetic. Its good effects will be generally promoted by previous depletion, particularly by



bleeding.

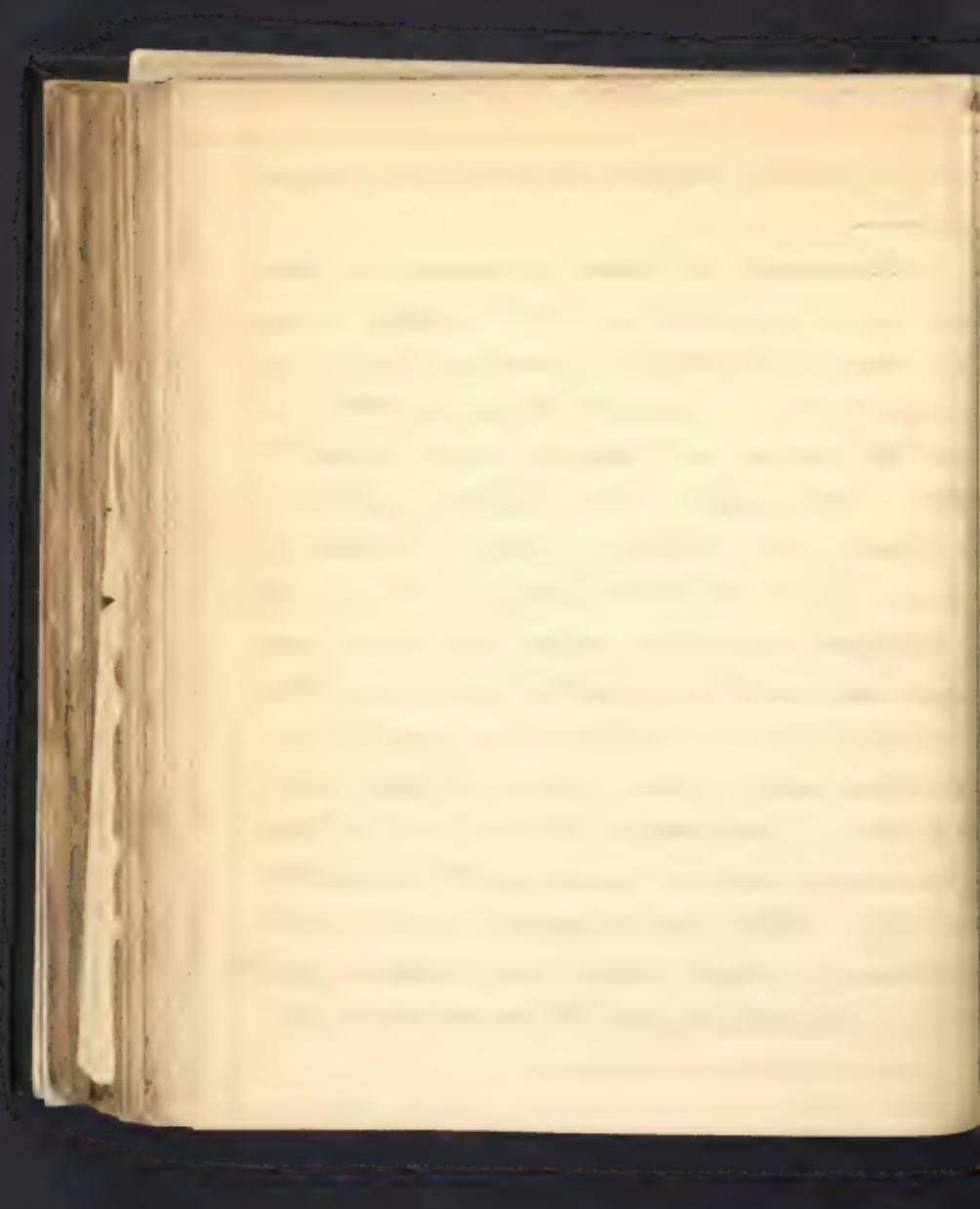
Purges. These, independent of their evacuating property, act by producing a transmission of excitement from the trachea to the bowels, and have thus a tendency to establish that equality of action which constitutes health; Calomel and Salap, or Calomel and Rheiubarb are the best cathartics in this complaint, and should always be given after emetics if they fail to open the bowels.

Blisters. Their good effects in croup depend upon their producing a transfer of disease from the throat to the parts to which they are applied. They should be applied to the throat, neck or breast. Autogenous are sometimes used, but they seem to be more liable in their operation, and therefore should



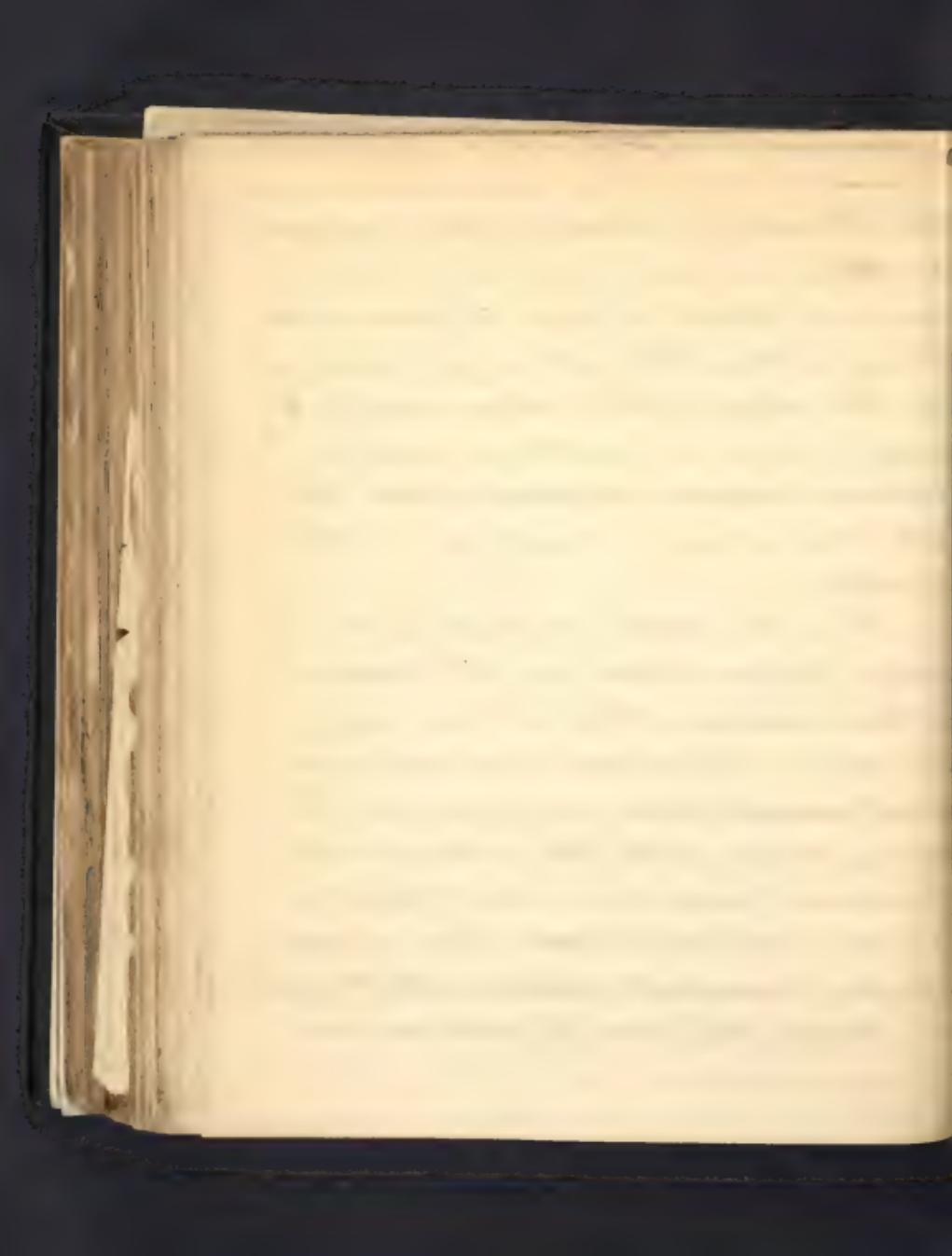
not supersede blisters in this formidable disease.

Calomel. Dr Rush recommends this in large quantities. He relates a case in which Dr Physick gave 30 grains of calomel to an infant three months old in the course of twenty four hours, Dr Hamilton was in the habit of administering 100 grains to young children; and I find that Dr Bartowright of Mississippi gave to a child four years old affected with croup, three grains of Tartar emet: combined with a 100 grains of calomel at a dose, and at the expiration of twelve hours he gave a 100 grains of calomel more, with complete success. This would appear rash in the extreme, if we were not aware (as I before mentioned) of the insensibility of



the stomach in croup, to the impression  
of all medicines; however Dr Chapman  
does not think it safe to recommend  
this practice. The efficacy of mercury  
in the cure of this disease seems to  
arise, from its creating a new  
disease, entirely different from the  
old one, already existing in the  
system.

It will appear evident from  
what I have said on the treatment  
of this disease, that I have only  
mentioned those remedies which are  
most successfully employed in the  
early stage of it; the subsequent  
treatment consists in expectorants,  
among which Dr Cox's Liver Syrup  
stands preeminent, likewise the Polygar-  
la Sonka has been highly recom-



-mended by Dr Archon of Maryland,  
who thought it adapted to every form  
and stage of this disease. Sometimes  
prescribing it as an emetic, and  
under other circumstances as an  
expectorant. Dr Caldwell says "that  
in protracted cases, where the debil-  
ity was great, and vomiting there-  
fore being inadmissible, he has used  
a strong decoction of the seneca with  
much success". But the most correct  
opinion with respect to the employ-  
ment of this remedy appears to be,  
that its use should be restricted to the  
ultimate stages of the disease, and as  
an expectorant.

Having now finished what I have  
to say on the history and treatment of  
this disease, I will just make a con-

and you're mine. I'd never  
let you be anyone to anyone else  
without mine all of your own  
own time no no in particular  
no no particular other than  
you. I've decided to make the  
time the time, and suddenly  
start again now. There will be  
no end to it, I'll never end, and  
there above the horizon in could  
never been like that I'd never been  
like that at all. The reason  
is to make you all go away  
it's a terrible world we're  
in many ways I hope you  
will always be here with me  
you know it's not all the time  
but there's a lot of time

-cluding remark, upon an erroneous opinion which appears to be prevalent with respect to the treatment of diseases in children. It is supposed by some practitioners that children are not able to bear very powerful remedies; but daily experience convinces us that they display uncommon tenacity of life, often living under circumstances that would destroy adults - They stand the operation of Emetics, Purges, Blisters, Enemas and even Amputation better; and further, they notoriously recover from wounds and surgical operations much better than adults.

influence on every branch of society  
would be to make of every individual  
a member of the church. This  
is difficult to do, because in  
most countries there is a majority who  
conceive religion and salvation  
as an external ceremony, and who  
strive to gain credit with  
the world without having  
any regard to the inward  
conviction of their hearts, and  
who therefore are easily led  
away into other heresies.